

WILL THERE BE A RACE?

DUNRAVEN'S LETTER RAISES SOME INTERESTING QUESTIONS.

New York, Yacht Club Official Are Not Inclined to Dismiss the Question Until the America's Cup Committee Have Considered the Matter—New Deal of Gift Seems to Hint Stand in the Way of a Contest —The Challenge May Be Withdrawn.

Now that the Earl of Dunraven's challenge for the America's Cup is here, along with his long-looked-for letter, many persons are talking as though another race for the cup is sure to take place. It is true that the Earl's letter possibly two very important points still remain to be settled before the acceptance of the Royal Yacht Squadron's challenge, or anything like a race, for next year is assured. While a day or two ago, a great many members of the New York Yacht Club, who are in the habit of sailing as good as made when they saw the cable challenge from the other side, yesterday they sang a different song after reading Dunraven's explanatory letter. While no one predicted that the Earl's letter would lead to America's Cup Committee meeting today, it

The whole trouble, as was pointed out in THE SKE last week, seems to be the position taken by the Royal Wicket Squadron in regard to the new deed of gift, which, for some reason never known to the public, they refused to do. They did not recognize in 1892. A member of the S. Y. Y. C. C., in speaking of the matter, says:

"Lord Dunsare, in his first letter to Secretary Oddie, dated Oct. 25, says among other things, that under certain conditions, and with certain modifications, he would be willing to give the cup again, under the same terms as in 1892. The third clause of that challenge was:

"It is understood and agreed that should the cup come into the custody of the British yacht club, it should be held subject to challenge under precisely similar conditions to those which applied in 1892. It provided always that such club shall not refuse any challenge according to the conditions laid down in the deed."

"The America's Cup Committee in their reply

"As to holding the cup, if won by you, the feeling of the Royal Yacht Squadron is that the cup, if won by you, should be held open to challenge under provisions of the rules. The fact that the challenge is a challenge is superfluous, for, according to the provisions of the rules, the cup is held open to challenge entitled so to do without any acquiescence on the part of the New York Yacht Club, and be perfectly free to put forward a challenge to the holder of the cup. It is this, although granting you an additional right, any such right being in the nature of an addition to the deed of the Royal Yacht Squadron, and not a withdrawal of the contest for the cup.

"Dunraven, in his explanatory letter, which was made public yesterday, makes this reply to the challenge:

"In regard to your remarks concerning the proviso in paragraph three of the challenge issued on my behalf, I am glad to say that the committee have pointed out that the clause limiting the challenge can alone be removed, and that the committee have no intention of referring to the Royal Yacht Squadron it is quite

[illegible][illegible]

While a great many yachtsmen would like to see the race place off Brenton's Reef Lightship on account of its nearness to Newport harbor, the members of the club and the public feel that it would be manifestly improper to sail for the America's Cup in any but home waters. Here, where the eyes of the world are the fairest in the world, it is less drawn out, being the distance from the city, which involves so much tooting. As to the exceptional bad nuisance, I think Lord Dunraven would find it most annoying. Macdonough at Newport, where we would have to contend against the worst of small boats, which are worse than all the tugs

Another yachtman, in reply to Lord Dunraven's proposal, said: "In any leeward or windward races where the wind is so varied from the wind and either vessel feels free to tack without a trial heat, the committee will have to decide if I don't see how the committee can agree to that." In the hearing of such a thing in connection with a yacht race, the idea of barring a yacht officer she has fairly won a race and making her sail it over is almost a thing of course. It is more favored than another by the wind currents and the tides and by the force of the wind; and the tides and the current will be used to make a mark in one lee, while another boat will be in the windward position and will make the same thing."

The "Up Committee will meet at Commodore Smith's office to-day to consider Dunraven's letter."


Parisians Demolish a Bicycle Track and Grand Stand.

PARIS, Dec. 9. The arrangements for the bicycle races to-day at the Velodrome d'Hiver have been so successful that the directors have demolished the track and the grand stand.

A New Cycling Organization.

The Ariel Wheelmen were organized at 51 Second street last Friday night with a membership of twenty-five. The officers are:

**Christmas
Present
FOR
A BOY.
SPALDING'S
OFFICIAL INTERCOLLEGIATE**



FOOTBALL.
Price, \$5.00.

The ball that is used by all the leading colleges.

Coys, Sleds, Sweaters, Toboggans, Skates,

and thousands of other suitable presents.

A. C. SPALDING & BROS.,
 126-130 NASSAU STREET.

CRAWFORD CYCLES

ARE UNEMPLOYED.

W. C. HODGKINS & CO., 300 Broadway,
 E. B. HOWMAN, 944 5TH AV.

WAGON SHEDS AT WEST 124TH ST.

THE CRAWFORD MFG. CO.,
 100 E. 12TH ST.